



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



October 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage	Property		Crops	Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured					

CONNECTICUT, Northeast

Hartford County

Manchester	14	1200EST 1800EST			0	0					Heavy Rain
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Tolland County

Vernon	14	1200EST 1800EST			0	0					Heavy Rain
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Thunderstorms produced heavy rain which also included small hail in Hartford County. Street flooding was reported in Newington and Manchester. Basement and street flooding was reported in West Hartford. Pea size hail fell in Windsor Locks and Bristol, and a house was struck by lightning in New Britain. The greatest rainfall totals were between 2.00 and 3.10 inches, with one isolated report of 4 inches at Collinsville. Some totals included 3.10 inches in Bristol, 2.75 inches in Farmington, 2.60 inches in Burlington, 2.36 inches in Unionville, and 2.00 inches in Windsor.

MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ002>019

Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Western Norfolk - Southeast Middlesex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Northern Bristol - Western Plymouth - Eastern Plymouth

01	1200EST 1600EST				0	0	250K				Strong Winds
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MAZ013

Western Norfolk

01	1521EST				0	0					High Wind (G51)
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Strong west to northwest winds gusting to 40 to 50 mph in the wake of a strong cold front caused scattered power outages and scattered wind damage across the state from the Connecticut Valley to eastern Massachusetts. In the Connecticut Valley, strong winds resulted in power outages affecting up to 10,000 electric customers, including 8,500 in Hampshire County where one major electric line was knocked down in Easthampton. In Springfield, a huge tree fell onto a house causing considerable damage. In Palmer, several panes of glass were blown out of a second story window and crashed into the street. In Worcester County, a few of the reports included large branches that fell across power lines in Gardner and a large tree which fell and blocked a street in Templeton. A falling tree in Leominster damaged a parked car and scattered power outages affected electric customers in Fitchburg, Lunenburg, Townsend, and Ashby. In the Merrimack Valley, the strong winds knocked down trees and tree limbs which fell onto power lines and blacked out power to 4,000 electric customers. In Middlesex County, a police officer in Marlboro was nearly killed when a huge tree fell into the road and crushed a van. The tree also ripped down power and telephone lines. In Holliston, the strong winds knocked down a large tree which fell onto a van, resulting in a total loss. In Chelmsford, a lot of trees and tree limbs were blown down. In Cambridge, many tree limbs were reported downed and a tree fell on a vehicle and part of a bus. No injuries were reported, but there was one indirect injury when a police officer bumped his head. The peak wind gust reported during the afternoon was 59 mph atop Blue Hill in Milton.

Barnstable County

East Falmouth	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0					Heavy Rain
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Bristol County

New Bedford	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0					Heavy Rain
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Essex County

Newburyport	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0					Heavy Rain
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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

Middlesex County

Natick	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Norfolk County

Milton	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Plymouth County

Hingham	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Suffolk County

Winthrop	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Worcester County

Westborough	08 11	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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A low pressure system developed along a stationary front along the Eastern Seaboard and resulted in a long duration rain event which started on October 8th and lasted into October 11th. Heavy rain affected most of central and eastern Massachusetts with 4 to more than 6 inches of rain. There were a few reports of urban street flooding, but no mainstem river or stream flooding was observed. In New Bedford, Route 18 was closed for about an hour on October 10th due to flooding, and there were several other reports of flooding in the city when over one inch of rain fell in one hour. About 3 inches of rain fell during an 18-hour period starting at noon on October 8th and lasting into the morning hours of the 9th at the Blue Hill Observatory in Milton. The greatest four day storm totals of over 5 inches were reported from the eastern part of the state in an area south and southwest of Boston. A spotter in Milton reported the most with 6.73 inches and the Blue Hill Observatory, also in Milton, had 5.75 inches. In Hingham, a cooperative observer reported 5.59 inches, making this the third greatest October rain event on a 46-year record. The greater events included 7.92 inches in two days during October, 1996 and 6.65 inches in three days during October, 1962. Some of the other higher totals from this event included 6.25 inches in Natick, 5.39 inches in Hull, 5.07 inches in Lexington, 5.00 inches in Winthrop, 4.95 inches in Newburyport, 4.90 inches in East Falmouth, 4.77 inches in Westboro, and 4.58 inches in New Bedford. This was the 7th rain event of 1998 to produce over 3 inches of rainfall, and brought the total for the year to over 60 inches in many parts of eastern Massachusetts.

Hampden County

Southwick	14	1200EST 1800EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Thunderstorms produced heavy rain which totaled 3.10 inches for the day in Southwick. The heaviest rain occurred during the early afternoon, resulting in some street and poor drainage flooding. Route 202 was flooded by one foot of water at one intersection, and on another road, a guard rail washed into a culvert. Moderate erosion occurred and several basements were flooded in the area.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

NHZ011>012

Cheshire - Hillsborough

01	1200EST 1700EST				0	0	100K		Strong Winds
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Strong west to northwest winds gusting to 40 to 50 mph in the wake of a strong cold front caused scattered power outages and scattered wind damage across Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties. In Marlboro and Winchester, in Cheshire County, trees and tree limbs were reported downed, resulting in scattered power outages. In Hillsborough County, many tree limbs and some trees were reported blown down in Nashua and Manchester. At least 3 cars were damaged by falling trees in Nashua.



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RHODE ISLAND

Kent County

Warwick	08 11	1200EST 0600EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Newport County

Newport	08 11	1200EST 0600EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Providence County

Burrillville	08 11	1200EST 0600EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Washington County

Block Is	08 11	1200EST 0600EST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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A low pressure system developed along a stationary front along the Eastern Seaboard and resulted in a long duration rain event which started on October 8th and lasted into October 11th. The highest total reported was 4.84 inches on Block Island. Other reports of heavy rainfall during this period included 3.79 inches in Burrillville and 3.73 inches in Clayville. There were no reports of flooding.